

SENATE BILL 2996
By Herron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 5, relative to educational assistants.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 5, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 49-5-__.

(a) Educational assistants shall have, at a minimum, a high school diploma or a GED equivalent, and shall show demonstrable proficiency in reading and writing skills.

(b) If a licensed teacher to whom an educational assistant has been assigned is required to be absent from the classroom, the educational assistant may assume responsibility for the classroom in lieu of a substitute teacher.

However, no educational assistant shall assume responsibility of the classroom for more than three (3) consecutive school days.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.